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Application No.: 10/016544

Case No.: 55947US002

REMARKS

Reexamination and reconsideration of the application as amended are respectfully requested.

The present newly applied rejection over Nalle is believed to be inappropriate and is respectfully requested withdrawn. The present invention relates to a method of forming discrete islands on a continuous film backing which is clarified in claim 18 as amended. However, it is submitted that this structure was inherent in the method as originally claimed. The Nalle reference in contrast continuously cuts through a bi-layer of film subsequently stretches it to form an open netting such as shown in Figure 3. The use of the rubber layer results in a netting which recovers to some extent resulting in the undulating structure of the bi-layer strands forming the net structure. There is no disclosure in Nalle of partially cutting through a continuous film to form separable surface elements, which surface elements are on a continuous film backing subsequently.

In view of the above further unfavorable note the action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be in order and such is respectfully requested. Alternatively applicants request that a personal interview be conducted as to expedite this application to allowance. It is believed that this is appropriate in view of the extended prosecution of this application and the late application of this newly applied reference.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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